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Agenda item 159

Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly

Report of the Sixth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Metod **Špaček** (Slovakia)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled "Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly" was included in the provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly pursuant to Assembly decision 57/513 of 19 November 2002.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 19 September 2003, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the Sixth Committee.

3. The Sixth Committee considered the item at its 2nd and 4th meetings, on 6 and 9 October 2003. The views of the representatives who spoke during the Committee's consideration of the item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.6/58/SR.2 and 4).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a letter dated 14 August 2000 from the Permanent Representative of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/55/226).

II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.6

5. At the 2nd meeting, on 6 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Japan, Mauritius, Mexico, Namibia, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Norway, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Uruguay, subsequently joined by the Democratic Republic of the

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Congo, India, Sierra Leone and Uganda, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly" (A/C.6/58/L.6).

6. At its 4th meeting, on 9 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.6/58/L.6 without a vote (see para. 8).

7. Before the adoption of the draft resolution, the representative of Sierra Leone made a statement in explanation of position (see A/C.6/58/SR.4).

III. Recommendation of the Sixth Committee

8. The Sixth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly

The General Assembly,

Wishing to promote cooperation between the United Nations and the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance,

1. *Decides* to invite the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary action to implement the present resolution.